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(b) whether it is a fact that before the resettlement of the Tank Restoration Scheme party in their memoirs under the heading details of irrigation, the ayacut area under the source was wrongly given as 3·24 acres instead of 324 acres;

(c) whether it is due to this clerical mistake that has crept into the printed memoirs that this tank is treated as a minor source and kept under the Revenue department for its repairs, although the actual area of the tank is about 3 square miles; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to transfer this Issa tank to the Public Works Department classifying the same as an imperial one, as it actually irrigates about 450 acres yielding a revenue of more than Rs. 2,000?

A.—(a) Kilanur Maduvu is in charge of the Public Works Department and has according to the resettlement register prepared in fasli 1320 a registered ayacut of 429·95 acres in Kilanur village only. It is not identical with the Vishnuvakkam Maduvu Tangal, which is a minor irrigation tank in charge of the Revenue Department.

According to the resettlement register, the registered ayacut of the Vishnuvakkam Maduvu Tangal is 284·14 acres as detailed below.

Village.	Extent in acres.	Assessment. RS.	A.
Karikalavakkam	131·99	482	1
Vishnuvakkam	121·75	624	4
Vilapakkam	30·40	159	0
Total ...	284·14	1,265	5

No lands in Kilanur or Arambakkam village are irrigated by this tank.

(b) & (c) The Government are not aware that the facts are as stated.

(d) The question of the transfer of the tank to the Public Works Department is under correspondence between the Collector and the Executive Engineer, Chingleput.

Water rate

Diminishing of gingelly crop area in East and West Godavari owing to heavy penalties.

*605 *Q.*—Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that gingelly crop area in the East and West Godavari has been diminishing gradually during the last four years and whether the same is due to the heavy penalty rate levied for closed channel irrigation unlike garlic and chillies for which only single water rate is charged; and

(b) whether the Government intend to modify the rules making the levy uniform?

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The gingelly crop area in East and West Godavari was above the average in faslis 1333, 1334 and 1335. There was a fall in fasli 1336. The Government understand that this was due, not to special rates for irregular irrigation, for such rates do not vary with the crops, but to an extension of groundnut cultivation. The area under groundnut increased from a normal of 600 acres to 5,181 acres in fasli 1336.

Books and Publications

Alleged search of the Bharathi Pracharalaya by the Police on 19th September 1928.

* 606 *Q.*—Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Bharathi Pracharalaya of Triplicane was searched by the City Police on the 19th September 1928, and that the entire stock of Subrahmanya Bharathi's poems, volumes 1 and 2, were seized and taken over;

(*b*) whether the Government have decided to proscribe Subrahmanya Bharathi's poems, volumes 1 and 2;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) be in the affirmative, the grounds for the decision of the Government;

(*d*) the circumstances under which the Government have taken the action against Subrahmanya Bharathi's poems at this moment, while they have been tolerated by the Government since their publication;

(*e*) whether the Government are aware of the deep resentment of the people of Tamil Nadu at the action taken by the Government against Subramania Bharathi's poems;

(*f*) whether it is the object of the Government to put an end to national aspirations in Tamil Nadu by proscribing the poems of Subrahmanya Bharathi; and

(*g*) whether the Government are aware that the late Mr. Subrahmanya Bharathi is revered by the whole of the Tamil Nadu as a great patriot and poet?

A.—(*a*) Yes, on the 20th September.
(*b*) No.
(*c*) Does not arise.
(*d*) The Government took no action.
(*e*) This Government have taken no action against these poems.
(*f*) The Government are unaware that such would be the consequences of proscription.
(*g*) Government have no information.

Civil Justice

Vacancies in the Madras High Court Bench.

* 607 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that two vacancies are going to occur in the Madras High Court Bench shortly, and if so, the dates when the vacancies will arise and the nature of the vacancies;